

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET



Om

SUBJECT: (Optional)

Monthly Report --

Jordan Bureau

FROM:

Chief, Operations Group

EXTENSION

NO.

DATE

October 1988

STAT

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

STAT

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1.	C/DRD	11/18/88		
2.	C/WSS	11/21		
3.	REDACTED			
4.				
5.	Managing Editor	11/22		
6.	FE Branch			
7.	ME/AF Branch	11/22		
8.	WE/LA Branch	11/22		
9.	USSR/EE Branch	11/22		
10.				
11.	C/Prod			
12.				
13.				
14.				
15.	Retain/Destroy			

FBIS-4016-88
1 November 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service
THROUGH: Chief, Operations Group
SUBJECT: Monthly Report--Jordan Bureau--October 1988

I. GENERAL

The hot news of the month was the full-blown currency crisis experienced by Jordan as the Central Bank allowed the dinar to drop from .375 dinars to the dollar to .442 to more nearly match the so-called parallel market. The government claims that the economy has now stabilized, while other observers expect the dinar to slide further, inflation to rise, and the middle class to be squeezed. Fingers are being pointed: The crisis was said to be caused by the PLO's pulling its money out of Jordanian banks, government corruption and overspending, a decline in loans and grants from Gulf states, the huge Iraqi debt to Jordan, the virtual cutoff of funds from Jordan's large expatriate population, and nervous Palestinians moving dinars into dollars in expectation of coming political problems. Whatever the cause or combination of factors, the crisis is real for our employees, whose living standards have been severely damaged by the currency crunch, since Jordan imports most of its daily necessities and only has limited exports of potash and phosphates. ?

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. The bureau has begun coordinating coverage of Sanaa radios directly with EAU by telex. The bureau advises Headquarters, London, and the BBC by service message of each such telex sent and received.

2. Primary coverage of Khartoum SUNA has been transferred to London Bureau to consolidate coverage of Sudan at one bureau and to eliminate daily exchange of coordination messages due to poor reception at Jordan Bureau.

3. The Wire praised the bureau's handling of "the unfolding events in Lebanon and the release of the Indian national held hostage."

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

FBIS-4016-88
1 November 1988

[redacted] entered on duty as an FBN-7/1 Arabic monitor trainee on 23 October. STAT

IV. VISITS

To the Bureau:

[redacted] and Geoffrey Eade, State Admin, on 24 October. STAT

From the Bureau:

1. Junior Editor [redacted] served as a nonprofessional courier to the Consulate in Jerusalem on the 7 October weekend. STAT

2. Deputy Chief [redacted] traveled to Hong Kong on personal travel 9-20 October. STAT

3. Chief Monitor [redacted] and his family left for London on end of contract travel on 23 October. STAT

V. COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

1. Junior Editor [redacted] participated in a 28-kilometer charity march organized by the Jordanian Cancer Society and the Society for the Care of Neurological Patients on 28 October. [redacted] was also the host/comedian of a Saturday morning cartoon show for the younger set at the American Club on 15 October. STAT

2. The [redacted] attended a reception at the Marriott Hotel given by Secretary of Defense and Mrs. Carlucci on 29 October. STAT

3. On 1 October Bureau Chief [redacted] gave a hail and farewell at a community dinner to honor FBIS deputy chiefs leaving and arriving at the mission, bidding farewell to the long departed but not forgotten [redacted] and hailing [redacted] who could not be present since he was working the evening shift. STAT

[redacted]

Chief, Jordan Bureau

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